

## 'Simmel Sunday' Planned At Miller-Cory Museum

WESTFIELD—On Sunday, March 10, Joan Barna of Scotch Plains will present a program between 2 and 5 p.m. on "Mothering or Simmel Sunday" at the Miller-Cory House Museum, located at 614 Mountain Avenue in Westfield.

In England and Colonial America, Mothering or Simmel Sunday was celebrated on the fourth Sunday during the Lenten season. Attendees will have an opportunity to learn about the traditions of the day and to taste a "Simmel Cake."

Costumed docents will be on hand to guide visitors through the 1740 farmhouse and answer questions about life in the colonies. The last tour will begin at 4 p.m.

Open-hearth cooking demonstrations will take place in the Frazee Building on the museum grounds. Volunteer cooks will demonstrate the cooking techniques of the 18th century and prepare treats for visitors to sample.

The museum's gift shop features a wide variety of Colonial reproductions, crafts, cookbooks and educational materials.

On Sunday, March 17, the museum will hold its Annual Maple Sugaring Day, with a program presented by Jack Petersen of Westfield. Admission to the museum is \$2 for adults, 50 cents for students and free for children under age 6.

For more information about the museum, its calendar of upcoming events or volunteer opportunities, please call the museum office at (908) 232-1776.



**LITERARY DUO...**Best-selling novelists Mary Higgins Clark, left, and her daughter, Carol Higgins Clark, will headline the Junior League of Elizabeth-Plainfield benefit, "A Literary Luncheon." The luncheon and book signing will take place on Friday, April 19, at 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Berkeley Plaza in Berkeley Heights. The mother-daughter team will be joined by fellow authors Anita Diamant and J. P. Morrissey. A silent auction and raffle will also take place.

## Famous Authors to Attend Junior League Luncheon

AREA – The Junior League of Elizabeth-Plainfield (JLEP) will host its third annual literary luncheon benefit, "A Literary Luncheon," on Friday, April 19, at the Berkeley Plaza in Berkeley Heights.

The festivities will include several prominent authors who will discuss their literary careers, as well as personally autographing their individual book selections which will be available for purchase.

Carol Higgins Clark, author of the "Regan Reilly" mystery series, will serve as Mistress of Ceremonies. She

will be joined by her mother, Mary Higgins Clark, a best-selling suspense writer with over 50 million books in print.

Anita Diamant, the author of "The Red Tent," a work of historical fiction based on the Biblical story of Dinah, will also be featured.

New Jersey resident J. P. Morrissey, author of "A Weekend at Blenheim," will join the panel. The event will additionally include children's book author and illustrator Emily Arnold McCully, Linda Fairstein, a former panel member and past Mistress of Ceremonies, will also participate.

A silent auction and raffle will round out the day's activities. Proceeds from the luncheon will benefit the JLEP's community service projects.

The law firm of Farer Fersko and the Connell Company, both of Westfield; Unity Bank and Schering-Plough are sponsors of the event.

The JLEP is an organization of more than 300 women throughout Union County committed to promoting volunteerism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.

Tickets are now available at The Town Book Store of Westfield, which may be reached at (908) 233-3535, or by calling the JLEP at (908) 709-1177.

## Eye on the Downtown

### An Italian Restaurant Holds Its Own Despite Competition in Downtown

By NERMENE SIMAIKA  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

Over the years, the face of downtown Westfield has evolved several times. As the town grows and rents are raised, many smaller privately owned stores have found it increasingly difficult to keep up.

As corporate-run establishments come into town, offering lower prices and bigger selections, the end result has been a downtown area that has become filled with more corporate, publicly traded corporations, such as The Gap, Starbucks, and Panera.

One reaction to these new additions has been a sense that unless a store is run by a giant corporate parent, it has no chance of survival.

Another perspective is that these types of corporate establishments increase interest in the downtown, thereby allowing privately owned businesses to benefit from the increased traffic.

Ferraro's Restaurant, Northside Trattoria, and Randal's Shoes are among the businesses that have been able to set themselves apart by having something different to offer the community. Another such establishment that has managed to endure is the restaurant Acquaviva Delle-Fonti. Located at 115 Elm Street, the restaurant features a Northern-Italian menu of elegantly prepared foods.

What is it that distinguishes one restaurant from another, or allows one establishment to flourish while another one fails? In a town like Westfield, which has several businesses competing for the same market, these are questions worth pondering.

Mick Acquaviva, the manager and operator of Acquaviva, believes that the key to any business' success lies in how the business treats its customers.

"My father, who's been in the restaurant business in Europe for many years, always told me that you have to treat your customers like guests," said Mr. Acquaviva. "Make them feel as if they are having a meal in your own house and treat them with honor, dignity, and respect."

Mr. Acquaviva has been in the restaurant business in New Jersey for over 10 years, getting his start in Peapack-Gladstone in 1992. Before Acquaviva was opened in October of 1999, Mr. Acquaviva was part-owner of the res-

taurant Acquila in New Providence. In scouting out different locations, he finally decided on the Elm Street spot in Westfield in spite of the fact that neighboring towns such as Cranford offer lower rents.

"The space was larger, which gives us the ability to hold private functions," said Mr. Acquaviva. "Westfield is a very unique town, almost like a Pleasantville. I've heard it referred to as the Norman Rockwell painting for New Jersey."

Mr. Acquaviva knew that there was tough competition from the other restaurants in town, some of which have been open for decades. In addition to providing excellent service, a restaurant has to be able to provide patrons with a meal worth remembering fondly.

Acquaviva's chef, Carlo Colombo, received his culinary education in Spain over 20 years ago, where he continued on in the restaurant business for about five years. His expertise is behind Acquaviva's daily specials, as well as the menu (which is modified every three months or so).

The combination of a unique menu, atmosphere, and impeccable service has allowed Acquaviva to persevere.

"So, while the experience may be similar to eating at somebody's home," Mr. Acquaviva noted, "the service itself is still very professional, and everything still gets done right."

In relation to restaurants like Ferraro's, which approach the level of being one of Westfield's institutions, Acquaviva is fairly new.

If an establishment's longevity is determined by its quality of service and product, we can expect Acquaviva to be part of the downtown landscape for a long time.

### Holy Trinity Seniors Plan Irish Program

WESTFIELD – The regular meeting of the Senior Social Club of the Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church in Westfield will take place on Monday, March 11, at 1:30 p.m. in the elementary school gymnasium.

The entertainment will be an Irish program of dance and music presented by children from the Holy Trinity Elementary School.

A trip to "The Tides" is planned for Friday, March 15, in honor of St. Patrick and a luncheon is included.

On Thursday, May 23, the club will attend a program at the Performing Arts Center in Newark. The bus will leave from B. G. Fields restaurant in Westfield and participants will return there after the performance for dinner.

Plans for future trips will be announced.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

**SHERIFF'S SALE**  
SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY, CHANCERY DIVISION, UNION COUNTY, DOCKET NO. F-16465-99

MIDFIRST BANK, PLAINTIFF vs. MIGUEL A. RODRIGUEZ, ET ALS., DEFENDANT.

CIVIL ACTION, WRIT OF EXECUTION, DATED NOVEMBER 29, 2001 FOR SALE OF MORTGAGED PREMISES.

By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public vendue, at the Union County Administration Building, 1st Floor, 40 Elizabethtown Plaza, Elizabeth, New Jersey on WEDNESDAY THE 20TH DAY OF MARCH A.D., 2002 at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.

The judgment amount is SIXTY SIX THOUSAND EIGHT-HUNDRED FORTY EIGHT & 70/100 (\$66,848.70).

The property to be sold is located in the City of Elizabeth in the County of Union, and the State of New Jersey.

Commonly known as: 210 Clark Place, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

Tax Lot No. 54 in Block No. 5.

Dimensions of Lot (Approximately) 25.00 feet wide by 100.00 feet long.

Nearest Cross Street: Situate in the southwesterly line of Clark Place at a point therein distant northwesterly 125.00 feet from the corner formed by the intersection of the same with the northwesterly line of Second Street.

There is due approximately the sum of SIXTY NINE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED FORTY THREE & 93/100 (\$69,743.93) together with lawful interest and costs.

There is a full legal description on file in the Union County Sheriff's Office.

The Sheriff reserves the right to adjourn this sale.

RALPH FROELICH SHERIFF

CARKHUFF & RADMIN, PC - ESQS.

598-600 Somerset Street

North Plainfield, New Jersey 07060

CH-756406 - (WL)

4 T - 2/21, 2/28, 3/7

& 3/14/02 Fee: \$183.60

### PUBLIC NOTICE

**NOTICE OF AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BY THE TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS**

**CONTRACTOR:** Orion System Integrators, 1 Lincoln Highway, Suite 16, Edison, New Jersey 08820

**NATURE OF SERVICE:** System integrator to provide computer hardware and consulting services.

**DURATION:** As needed.

**AMOUNT:** Through Capital Ordinance 92-25 and the Recreation Trust Account #514 totaling \$25,000. (a REDI Grant has been submitted and the township is awaiting approval) (any funds received from said grant will reimburse the above-mentioned accounts).

**THE RESOLUTION AND CONTRACT FOR SAME ARE ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE TOWNSHIP CLERK.**

Barbara Riepe Township Clerk

1 T - 3/7/02, The Times Fee: \$20.91

## Kimberley A. Haley

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Offered for \$785,000



## Coldwell Banker

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### OPEN HOUSE- Sunday March 10, 1 - 4 P.M. 1316 Stonybrook Lane, Mountainside



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Westfield Office  
209 Central Avenue  
(908) 233-5555 ext. 169  
www.westfieldnjhomes.com



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### PUBLIC NOTICE

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Estate of: JOSEPHINE R. FRANCAVIGLIA, Deceased

Pursuant to the order of James S. LaCorte, Surrogate of the County of Union, made on the 1ST day of MARCH, A.D. 2002, upon the application of the undersigned, as EXECUTOR of the estate of said deceased, notice is hereby given to the creditors of said deceased to exhibit to the subscriber under oath or affirmation their claims and demands against the estate of said deceased within six months from the date of said order, or they will be forever barred from prosecuting or recovering the same against the subscriber.

Peter C. Francaviglia Jr.,  
Roseanne Pielhau, A/K/A  
Roseanne Francaviglia  
Executors

Attorneys  
Johnstone, Skok, Loughlin & Lane  
324 East Broad Street  
P.O. Box 490  
Westfield, New Jersey 07090  
1 T - 3/7/02, The Leader Fee: \$22.95

### PUBLIC NOTICE

**SHERIFF'S SALE**

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY, CHANCERY DIVISION, UNION COUNTY, DOCKET NO. F-8755-01

EQUICREDIT, PLAINTIFF vs. MARIA MARIUENNA AND MR. MARIUENNA, ET ALS., DEFENDANT.

CIVIL ACTION, WRIT OF EXECUTION, DATED DECEMBER 4, 2001 FOR SALE OF MORTGAGED PREMISES.

By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public vendue, at the Union County Administration Building, 1st Floor, 10 Elizabethtown Plaza, Elizabeth, New Jersey on WEDNESDAY THE 3RD DAY OF APRIL A.D., 2002 at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.

The judgment amount is ONE-HUNDRED TWENTY SEVEN THOUSAND SIX-HUNDRED FORTY EIGHT & 50/100 (\$127,648.50).

The property to be sold is located in the City of Elizabeth, County of Union and State of New Jersey.

It is commonly known as 207 1/2 Catherine Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey property assessed as 207 Catherine Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey by the Elizabeth Tax Assessor.

It is known and designated as Lot 377, Block 8.

The dimensions are 25 feet wide by 86 feet long.

Nearest cross street: Situate on the easterly line of Catherine Street, 75 feet from the northeasterly line of East Grand Street.

Prior lien(s): Tax Sale Cet. #006756 sold on 6/11/01 to Phoenix Funding, Inc. in the sale amount of \$1,196.48. The total amount to redeem to 11/9/01 is \$4,593.50. Lienholder paid subsequent. The total amount due as of 11/9/01 for unpaid water/sewer charges and lien payoff is in the aggregate sum of \$5,043.77. Subject to unpaid taxes and municipal liens. Amount due will be announced at the Sheriff's Sale or is available upon written request to plaintiff's attorneys.

There is a full legal description on file in the Union County Sheriff's Office.

The Sheriff reserves the right to adjourn this sale.

RALPH FROELICH SHERIFF

STERN, LAVINTHAL, FRANKENBERG, NORGAARD & KAPNICK, LLP

293 Eisenhower Parkway  
Livingston, New Jersey 07039-1711  
CH-756433 - (WL)

4 T - 3/7, 3/14, 3/21

& 3/28/02 Fee: \$232.56

### PUBLIC NOTICE

**UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS NOTICE OF CONTRACT AWARD**

Date Adopted: February 28, 2002

Public Notice is hereby given that the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders has awarded a contract without competitive bidding as a professional service or extraordinary, unspecified service pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a). This contract and the resolution authorizing it is available for public inspection in the Office of the Clerk of the Board.

M. Elizabeth Genievich  
Clerk of the Board  
1 T - 3/7/02, The Leader Fee: \$24.48

### PUBLIC NOTICE

**RESOLUTION NO. 246-2002**

**AWARDED TO:** Planners Diversified, 382 Springfield Avenue, Summit, New Jersey

**SERVICES:** To prepare an updated Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy document that reflects the presently available 2000 Census information in accordance with the CEDS guidelines published by the Economic Development Administration.

**PERIOD:** 1/1/02-12/31/02  
**COST:** \$19,500

M. Elizabeth Genievich  
Clerk of the Board  
1 T - 3/7/02, The Leader Fee: \$24.48

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**RESOLUTION NO. 254-2002**

**AWARDED TO:** Musial Group, 191 Mill Lane, Mountainside, New Jersey

**SERVICES:** For the final design of the Streetscape around the Union County Courthouse and associated work to the entrance of the Courthouse Building, Elizabeth.

**COST:** \$156,000

M. Elizabeth Genievich  
Clerk of the Board  
1 T - 3/7/02, The Leader Fee: \$21.42

### PUBLIC NOTICE

**NOTICE OF AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BY THE TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS**

**CONTRACTOR:** MVP Software Inc., Cleveland Plaza, Suite 301, 123 North Union Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey 07026

**NATURE OF SERVICE:** Software company to provide consulting and design services.

**DURATION:** As needed.

**AMOUNT:** Through Capital Ordinance 92-25 and the Recreation Trust Account #514 totaling \$25,000. (a REDI Grant has been submitted and the township is awaiting approval) (any funds received from said grant will reimburse the above-mentioned accounts).

**THE RESOLUTION AND CONTRACT FOR SAME ARE ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE TOWNSHIP CLERK.**

Barbara Riepe Township Clerk

1 T - 3/7/02, The Times Fee: \$21.42